

**Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Committee on Energy & Commerce  
June 3, 2011**

**Subcommittee on Energy and Power  
Hearing on “the American Energy Initiative – Roadmap For America’s Energy Future”**

The list of energy-related issues facing the nation is a long one - high gas prices, reliance on unstable and unfriendly oil-exporting nations, rising electric bills, and many others. Not only are families hurt by high energy costs, but so are manufacturers and other job creators. These are serious problems today and will only get worse as America’s energy needs grow in the years ahead.

The problem is not a short supply of energy, but a short supply of fresh thinking on energy policy. That’s why I am pleased to participate in this American Energy Initiative hearing on Mr. Nunes’ Roadmap for America’s Energy Future, and I welcome my good friend and colleague.

It should go without saying that we ought to be making full use of the affordable energy we have right here in America. Not only does American-made energy provide greater supplies and lower prices, it also creates thousands of well-paying jobs and keeps more dollars right here in the U.S. This is not the time to put the brakes on our domestic resources or pick energy winners and losers based on political ideology. We need it all. Energy drives our economy and has a direct impact on jobs.

I thank my good friend Mr. Nunes for putting his ideas on the table. This is what our American Energy Initiative is all about – looking at ideas, participating in a dialogue, and ultimately promoting “all-of-the-above” when it comes to American-made energy sources.

We look forward to hearing from Mr. Nunes and the experts here today. Thank you.